

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid encoding an IRAK-4
2 polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide has ~~having~~ IL-1R/Toll family member signal transduction
3 activity and comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 at least about 98% amino acid
4 ~~sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1 or to a subsequence thereof, wherein the amino acid sequence~~
5 ~~of the polypeptide comprises an alanine residue at an amino acid position corresponding to~~
6 ~~amino acid position 81 of SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein said nucleic acid comprises at least about~~
7 ~~400 nucleotides.~~

Claims 2-9 (cancelled)

1 Claim 10 (original): The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid
2 comprises a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 11 (cancelled)

1 Claim 12 (original): The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide
2 specifically binds to antibodies generated against a polypeptide comprising an amino acid
3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

1 Claim 13 (original): The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is
2 operably linked to a promoter.

1 Claim 14 (original): An expression cassette comprising the nucleic acid of
2 claim 13.

1 Claim 15 (original): An isolated cell comprising the expression cassette of
2 claim 14.

Claims 16-30 (cancelled)

1 Claim 31 (currently amended): A method of making an IRAK-4 polypeptide, the
2 method comprising:

3 (i) introducing a nucleic acid into a host cell or cellular extract, said nucleic acid
4 encoding an IRAK-4 polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide has ~~having~~ IL-1R/Toll family
5 member signal transduction activity and comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and
6 ~~at least about 98% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1 or to a subsequence thereof,~~
7 ~~wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprises an alanine residue at an amino~~
8 ~~acid position corresponding to amino acid position 81 of SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein said nucleic~~
9 ~~acid comprises at least about 400 nucleotides;~~

10 (ii) incubating said host cell or cellular extract under conditions such that said
11 IRAK-4 polypeptide is expressed in the host cell or cellular extract; and

12 (iii) recovering the IRAK-4 polypeptide from the host cell or cellular extract.

Claims 32-66 (cancelled)

1 Claim 67 (previously presented): The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said IL-
2 1R/Toll family member signal transduction activity is NFκB activation activity.

Claim 68 (new): The method of claim 63, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a
nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 69 (new): The nucleic acid of claim 63, wherein said IL-1R/Toll family
member signal transduction activity is NFκB activation activity.

Appl. No. 09/759,595

PATENT

Amdt. dated March 4, 2004

Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure

Examining Group

- 1 Claim 70 (new): An isolated nucleic acid encoding an IRAK-4 polypeptide, said
- 2 polypeptide having IL-1R/Toll family member signal transduction activity, wherein said nucleic
- 3 acid comprises a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.